

Tiverton Open Space Commission

Minutes of August 17, 2009
Essex Library, Highland Road

Present: Ginger Lacy (co-chair), Brian Janes (co-chair), Garry Plunkett, Phil Schuyler, Dick Bixby, Martin Van Hof, Susan Anderson and Martha Moore.

The meeting was called to order at the Essex Library at 7:10 PM.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- The minutes of June 15, 2009 were accepted as corrected.
- The Treasurer's Report, presented by Dick Bixby, was accepted as presented: Open Space Acquisition is \$27,556.22; OS Stewardship is \$6510.35; OS Appropriation is \$1500.00; Ft. Barton Appropriation is \$1634.67, Pocasset Lands Stewardship is \$2895.00. Garry noted that the Pocasset Lands Stewardship Fund/RI Foundation is \$14,171.90.
- Garry recorded the monthly volunteer hours contributed by TOSC members.
- Phil informed the Commission members of the Library's upcoming open meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at the Middle School.
- Election of TOSC officers for the next year (July 2009-July 2010) was completed. Elected were: Co-chairs - Ginger Lacy, Brian Janes, Treasurer - Dick Bixby, Admin - Martha Moore. Key support responsibilities: Land Stewardship - Garry Plunkett, Ft. Barton Trails - Phil Schuyler, Grants and Education - Gayle Lawrence, Landscaping/habitat advice - Martin Van Hof & Martha Moore, Education/Historical Data - Susan Anderson, Land Acquisition - Brian Janes.

TRAILS & HABITAT

- Ft. Barton: Preparations have been completed for the Roger Williams University student volunteers day. Phil was directed to get information on acquiring and erecting a 35 foot flag pole to replace the existing pole. Rep. Jay Edwards has put this item on his list of grants for the next legislative session. The Sons of the Revolution will be contacted and asked to support this project.
- Weetamoo Woods: Garry reports that he is set for the RWU volunteers (8/24/09). The plan is to replace a sign and work on removing invasive growth in the grasslands area. Last week two dirt bike volunteers walked the Weetamoo trails with Garry to review possible maintenance projects. Plans were made to rework the wet areas of the Yellow Trail, under Garry's supervision. There followed a general discussion of trail maintenance in Weetamoo. Garry indicated that the Elaine Lee plaque was completed and ready for mounting. Mounting plans were discussed. It was agreed that the plaque would be placed to the left of the old kiosk. Two donations have been received totaling \$150. to cover expenses.

EDUCATION & GRANTS

- Susan showed the progress of her Fort Barton talk. Discussion.
- Grants: Garry announced receipt of a USFWS grant of \$5000 for the grasslands restoration project in Weetamoo.

OTHER

- Brian gave a brief properties review.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 PM. The next meeting will be Monday, September 21, 2009 at the Essex Library.

Respectfully Submitted: J.P. Schuyler